

In the Specification

Applicant presents replacement paragraphs below indicating the changes with insertions indicated by underlining and deletions indicated by strikeouts and/or double bracketing.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, lines 6-8 with the amended paragraph/line as follows:

This application is a divisional of application serial number 08/896,164, filed July 17, 1997, ~~now pending~~ which issued as US patent number 6,218,521 B1. This application claims the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 of application serial number 08/896,164.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 31 through page 3, line 10 with the amended paragraph/line as follows:

One key methodology is described by Sahin, et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 92: 11810-11913 (1995), incorporated by reference. Also, see U.S. Patent Applications Serial No. 08/580,980 filed on June 7, 1995 and issued as US patent number 6,025,191, and Application Serial No. 08/479,328, ~~filed on June 7, 1995 and~~ filed on January 3, 1996 and issued as US patent number 5,698,396, respectively. All three of these references are incorporated by reference. To summarize, the method involves the expression of cDNA libraries in a prokaryotic host. (The libraries are secured from a tumor sample). The expressed libraries are then immunoscreened with absorbed and diluted sera, in order to detect those antigens which elicit high titer humoral responses. This methodology is known as the SEREX method ("Serological identification of antigens by Recombinant Expression Cloning"). The methodology has been employed to confirm expression of previously identified tumor associated antigens, as well as to detect new ones. See the above referenced patent applications and Sahin, et al., supra, as well as Crew, et al., EMBO J 144: 2333-2340 (1995).

In the Claims

Applicant has submitted a new complete claim set showing marked up claims with insertions indicated by underlining and deletions indicated by strikeouts and/or double bracketing.

1-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently amended) A method for determining gastric cancer in a patient, comprising, assaying a sample obtained from the patient for an antibody that specifically binds sterol carrier protein-X/sterol carrier protein-2, as a determination of the gastric cancer in said patient.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the sterol carrier protein-X/sterol carrier protein-2 is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:19, 20, 21, and 22.

15. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the antibody is assayed using sterol carrier protein-X/sterol carrier protein-2 or an antigenic fragment thereof.

16-30. (Cancelled)

31. (Currently amended) A method for following the progress of a therapeutic regime designed to alleviate gastric cancer, comprising:

(a) assaying a sample obtained from a subject at a first time to determine the level of a parameter selected from the group consisting of (i) ~~a peptide derived from a sterol carrier protein-X/sterol carrier protein-2~~, (ii) ~~a cytolytic T cell specific for cells presenting said peptide~~, and (iii) ~~an antibody which specifically binds sterol carrier protein-X/sterol carrier protein-2 to said peptide of said protein, at a first time period~~;

(b) assaying the level of the antibody ~~parameter selected in (a)~~ obtained from the subject at a second ~~period of time and comprising~~ comparing it to the level determined in (a) as a determination of effect of said therapeutic regime.

32. (Previously presented) The method of claim 31, wherein the sterol carrier protein-X/sterol carrier protein-2 is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:19, 20, 21, and 22.

62. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the antibody is assayed using sterol carrier protein-X/sterol carrier protein-2 or an antigenic fragment thereof.